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Thursday, November 7, 2019 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: Metro

CRACKDOWN ON GUN VIOLENCE

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8 THINGS TO KNOW

REUTERS

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U.S. impeachment probe to enter high-stakes phase with public hearings next week

Three career diplomats to attend open hearings.

Impeachment proceedings against U.S. President Donald Trump for pressuring Ukraine to investigate a political rival will reach a critical stage next week when a Democratic-led congressional committee holds its first public hearings on the issue.

In a move that raises the stakes ahead of a presidential election year, Democrats said on Wednesday the U.S. House of Representatives Intelligence Committee would hold open hearings with three career U.S. diplomats who have expressed alarm about Trump's dealings with Ukraine.

The public testimony will feature William Taylor, the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State George Kent, and former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch.

They will testify on Nov. 13 and 15, said Adam Schiff, the committee's Democratic chairman who wrote on Twitter that there was "More to come." The diplomats and others have already testified to lawmakers from both parties behind closed doors.

Televised public hearings featuring U.S. officials testifying in Congress about alleged wrongdoing by Trump could crowd out other issues like the economy and immigration as voters turn their minds to the November 2020 election.

That might damage Trump, though some of his supporters say the impeachment drive could actually boost his re-election chances by showing him at loggerheads with Washington-based political foes.

Democrats had said they had enough material to move forward with public impeachment hearings, which would be a likely prelude to articles of impeachment — formal charges — against Trump being brought to a vote in the House.

"We are getting an increasing appreciation for just what took place during the course of the last year and the degree to which the president enlisted whole departments of government in the illicit aim of trying to get Ukraine to dig up dirt on a political opponent as well as further a conspiracy theory about the 2016 election that he believed would be beneficial to his re-election campaign," Schiff told reporters.

If the Democratic-controlled House votes to impeach Trump, the Republican-controlled Senate would then hold a trial on whether to remove Trump from office. Senate Republicans have so far shown little appetite for ousting the president.

Taylor has provided some of the most damaging testimony to date, telling lawmakers on Oct. 22 that Trump made the release of nearly $400 million in security aid to Ukraine contingent on Kiev publicly declaring it would carry out politically motivated investigations demanded by Trump against former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden.

Taylor said he was told by Gordon Sondland, the U.S. envoy to the European Union, that Trump had linked release of the aid to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky publicly declaring that he would investigate Biden, and his son Hunter Biden, as well as a debunked conspiracy theory about the 2016 election.

Joe Biden is a leading contender for the Democratic nomination to run against Trump in the November 2020 election.

Trump has blasted the House inquiry as a witch hunt and accused Democrats of unfairly targeting him in hope of reversing his surprise victory in the 2016 presidential election. In a tweet on Wednesday, Trump called the probe a "phony scam."

Democrats have defended the investigation, citing concerns that the president misused his public office for personal gain. REUTERS

iStock

10-year-old shot in Frankford, Philadelphia

2 In the Frankford section of Philly, a 10-year-old boy was shot. The victim was shot in the back of the head. It was reported that the shooting occurred in the 2000 block of Margaret Street and Torresdale Avenue around 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday. The child was transported to St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, where he is in critical condition. At this time, the circumstances around the shooting are unclear, but it is being reported that no arrests have been made as of Wednesday evening. If you or someone you know knows anything about the incident, you are urged to call Philly PD at 215-686-TIPS. You can also email any tips to tips@phillypolice.com. All tips are anonymous.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER

More women in tech, but not at the top

3 Technology firms are hiring more women and narrowing the gender gap, a poll by Europe's largest technology conference found on Wednesday, but female leaders said the multi-trillion dollar industry was still failing to put them in its boardrooms. A poll of 600 women in tech by the Web Summit showed nearly half, or 42%, believed gender ratios had improved in the last year. One in three were "unsure" if representation was better. The findings from the conference suggest the sector is starting to respond to allegations last year of sexism at tech firms such as Facebook and walkouts by Google employees in response to claims of inequality and sexual misconduct. "It's great to hear that women in tech feel that they are becoming better represented," said Winnie Lee, chief operating officer of AI startup Appier. REUTERS

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Police officers congregate while responding to a shooting on August 14, 2019 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. At least six police officers were reportedly wounded in an hours-long standoff with a gunman that prompted a massive law enforcement response in the city's Nicetown-Tioga neighborhood. GETTY IMAGES

Mayor Kenney announces new Philly gun violence initiatives

Here's how Philly is hoping to help communities most affected by gun violence.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Mayor Jim Kenney joined with the members of the Philadelphia City Council Wednesday to announce new initiatives to help assist communities most impacted by gun violence.

City officials are working together to implement two main initiatives based around group violence intervention and rapid response outreach.

"There is no single solution to gun violence. We need a multi-pronged approach and collaboration at every level of City government to address this problem," said City Council President Darrell L. Clarke.

Clarke added, "Whether it's prohibiting guns at City recreation centers, so our children have safe havens where they can play; increasing employment opportunities for our youth who are most at-risk of gun violence; or stepping up the City's efforts at neighborhood policing and social services through the Group Violence Intervention initiative, we need to do everything in our power to make Philadelphia safer for all our citizens."

The group violence intervention initiative involves the city working closely with the District Attorney's Office and other partners, to focus on a deterrence methods. According to a press release, this strategy focuses on high-risk individuals in hot spots, which include those pushing drugs and repeat offenders.

Additionally, the city will offer incentives for compliance and swift consequences for criminal activities. It will be fully funded by officials and will be implanted in West Philly this spring.

The rapid response outreach initiative will give communities who witness gun violence immediate trauma support, help getting long-term counseling, immediate structural and streetscape repairs, long-term blight remediation and improved street lighting and information on other social services and anti-violence resources, according to officials.

Additionally, the Kenney administration transmitted the City Council legislation a mid-year budget transfer of $3.88 million to the Managing Director's Office to help strengthen the initiatives already in place.

Here are the existing anti-violence initiatives the funds will be supporting:

- **Community** Crisis Intervention Program
- **Police Assisted** Diversion
- **Mentorship**
- **Targeted** Community Investment Grants
- **Workforce** Development
- **Support** for the evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs

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5 Philadelphia Thursday, November 7, 2019

Relatives of slain members of Mexican-American families belonging to Mormon communities react next to the burnt wreckage of a vehicle where some of their relatives died in Bavispe, Sonora, Mexico. REUTERS

Killing of Americans sucks Mexican president into Trump election vortex

Distancing attempts by both countries thwarted.

The massacre of nine American citizens has dealt a new blow to the Mexican president's aim to free his country of foreign interference, enveloping him in a growing security crisis just as U.S. counterpart Donald Trump seeks re-election.

On Monday, gunmen killed three women and six children from a Mexican-American Mormon family in northern Mexico, prompting Trump to offer President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador help in wiping out drug gangs he blamed for the ambush.

The incident is still under investigation, but Trump's words revived emotive warnings about the country he made during his 2016 tilt for presidency, when he accused Mexico of sending "bad hombres" across the U.S. border.

A history buff who makes frequent references to past U.S. and French invasions of Mexico, Lopez Obrador is pursuing a nationalist economic vision, and is staunchly committed to a policy of non-intervention in other countries' affairs.

But in his dealings with the United States, he has repeatedly been obliged to bend policies to satisfy Trump.

Five months ago, Trump responded to a surge in illegal immigration to the United States by threatening Mexico with tariffs if it did not do more to contain the problem.

Lopez Obrador duly obliged with a deployment of security forces the U.S. president credits for a sharp drop in apprehensions of illegal immigrants at the U.S. border.

After the migrant episode, the killings will give Trump more leverage on Mexico as he gears up for re-election, said Gustavo Madero, an opposition senator for Chihuahua.

"The pathway has been opened to use this on drugs now, not just migrants, so that Mexico can be put in a bind as soon as Donald Trump wants to impose other conditions," Madero told Reuters. "These are the arguments he's been waiting for."

The massacre of the women and children, who belonged to families from breakaway Mormon communities established decades ago in the northern states of Sonora and Chihuahua, was the latest in a spate of mass killings to roil Mexico.

> **"The hard truth is that Mexico is dangerously close to being a failed state."**
>
> **Sen. Ben Sasse**

Homicides were at unprecedented levels when the leftist Lopez Obrador took office in December, pledging to curb violence.

Instead, murders have risen, and the tally in 2019 is on track to surpass last year's record of more than 29,000.

A shocking series of slayings has increased concern at home and abroad over the president's strategy, which has been built on addressing the root causes of poverty and crime, and the creation of a new militarized police force, or National Guard.

That approach came under sustained attack last month when gun battles broke out in center of the northern city of Culiacan during an abortive attempt by security forces to capture a son of imprisoned kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman. REUTERS

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‘Straight up lied’: prosecutors blast longtime Trump adviser Stone in trial

Roger Stone, President Donald Trump's longtime adviser. REUTERS

The prosecution in the trial of Roger Stone on Wednesday painted President Donald Trump's longtime adviser as a liar in a criminal case stemming from former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's probe that detailed Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. election.

After a 12-member jury was selected, opening statements began in the trial in federal court in Washington. The 67-year-old veteran Republican political operative - a self-described “dirty trickster” and “agent provocateur” - has pleaded not guilty to charges of obstructing justice, witness tampering and lying to the U.S. House of Representatives Intelligence Committee.

“Stone straight up lied” to Congress, prosecutor Aaron Zelinsky told the jury.

Stone has been a friend and ally of Trump for some 40 years.

“Now you'll ask, why didn't Roger Stone just tell the truth?” Zelinsky asked the jurors. “The evidence in this case will show that Roger Stone lied to the House Intelligence Committee because the truth looked bad.”

“The truth looked bad for the Trump campaign, and the truth looked bad for Donald Trump,” Zelinsky added.

The prosecution said the jury will hear testimony from Steve Bannon, who served as an adviser to Trump during the campaign and in the White House, and former deputy campaign chairman Rick Gates, who testified for the government last year in a trial that led to the conviction of former campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

Zelinsky accused Stone of five categories of lies. Zelinsky also told the jurors the case was neither about politics nor about who hacked the Democratic National Committee in 2016. U.S. intelligence agencies and Mueller concluded the hacking was done by Russia.

Stone is accused of lying to the Intelligence Committee about the Trump campaign's efforts to obtain emails hacked by Russia that were published by the Wikileaks website to harm Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton's candidacy. The Democratic-led panel is now spearheading the House impeachment inquiry against Trump over his request that Ukraine investigate a Democratic rival, Joe Biden.

> **“The truth looked bad for the Trump campaign, and the truth looked bad for Donald Trump.”**
>
> **Prosecutor Aaron Zelinsky**

The defense will get its chance to deliver its opening statement in the afternoon. The opening statements followed the selection of a 12-person jury in the trial, with U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson presiding.

“Stone regularly updated people on the Trump campaign at the senior levels about whatever information he thought he had about Wikileaks,” Zelinsky said, adding that Stone “was going to the very top of the Trump campaign — the CEO of the Trump campaign — a man named Steve Bannon.”

Part of the case involves communications between Stone and two other key figures: conservative Randy Credico and Jerome Corsi. REUTERS

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SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Philadelphia zip codes turn up silver for residents

Sealed Vault Bags full of heavy silver bars are actually being handed over to the first Pennsylvania residents who find their zip code listed in today's publication and call before the 48 hour order deadline ends to claim the bags full of valuable silver

Operators at the National Silver Hotline are struggling to keep up with all the calls.

That's because Silver Vault Bags loaded with a small fortune of .999 pure Silver Bars are now being handed over to everyone who beats the 2-day order deadline.

"It's like a modern day Gold Rush. Pennsylvania residents will be hoarding all the silver bars they can get their hands on for the next 2 days. This comes as no surprise after the standard State Minimum set by the Federated Mint dropped 42%, going from $50 per bar to just $29 making these Silver Vault Bags a real steal," said Mary Ellen Withrow, the emeritus 40th Treasurer of the United States of America.

"As executive advisor to the private Federated Mint, I get paid to deliver breaking news. And here's the best part. This is great news for Pennsylvania residents because it's the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint," said Withrow.

The only thing residents need to do is find the first 3 digits of their zip code on the Distribution List printed in today's publication. If their zip code is on the list, they need to immediately call the National Silver Hotline before the 2-day order deadline ends.

Residents who do are cashing in on the record low State Minimum set by the Federated Mint. This is a real steal for residents because each Silver Vault Bag loaded with 10 Pennsylvania State Silver Bars is normally set at $500 which is the standard $50 per heavy half ounce bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint. But here's the good news. Residents who call today get the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of just $290 for each Pennsylvania Silver Vault Bag which is just $29 per bar as long as they call the National Silver Hotline at; 1-866-874-7770 EXT. FMM2681 before the deadline ends.

Phone lines open at pre-

(Continued on next page)

■ **PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS CASH IN:** It's like a modern day Gold Rush. Everyone's scrambling to get their hands on the heavy, Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bags pictured above before they're all gone. That's because residents who find the first 3 digits of their zip code printed in today's publication are cashing in on the lowest ever State Minimum price set for the next 2 days by the Federated Mint.

▸ **Who gets the Silver Vault Bags:** Listed below are the U.S. zip codes that get the Silver Vault Bags. If you find the first 3 digits of your zip code immediately call: **1-866-874-7770 EXT. FMM2681**

150	156	162	168	174	180	186	192
151	157	163	169	175	181	187	193
152	158	164	170	176	182	188	194
153	159	165	171	177	183	189	195
154	160	166	172	178	184	190	196
155	161	167	173	179	185	191	

(Continued from previous page)

cisely 8:30 A.M. this morning and are expected to be flooded by Pennsylvania residents looking to cash in on the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint to date. That's why Philadelphia area residents who find the first 3 digits of their zip code on the distribution list today are being urged to call immediately.

Since this special advertising announcement can't stop dealers and collectors from hoarding all the new 2019 Edition Pennsylvania State Silver Bars they can get their hands on, the Federated Mint had to set a strict limit of three Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bags per resident – these are the bags everyone's trying to get because they contain 10 individual Silver Vault Bags each. Everyone who gets these will feel like they just hit the jackpot.

"Residents who want to cash in on the lowest ever State Minimum set by the private Federated Mint better hurry. That's because in 2 days, the State Minimum for these heavy half ounce Pennsylvania State Silver Bars returns to the normal State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of $50 per bar," Withrow said.

"We're bracing for all the calls and doing the best we can, but with just hours left before the deadline ends, residents lucky enough to find their zip code listed in today's publication need to immediately call the National Silver Hotline," Withrow said. ■

■ **SILVER HITS ROCK BOTTOM:** Everyone's scrambling to get the Silver Vault Bags each loaded with 10 solid .999 pure Silver State Bars before they are all gone. That's because the standard State Minimum set by the private Federated Mint dropped 42%, going from $50 per bar to just $29, which is a real steal.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: If you find the first 3 digits of your zip code on the distribution list printed in today's publication read below then immediately call: **1-866-874-7770 EXT. FMM2681**

▶ **I keep calling and can't get through:** Keep trying. Right now everyone's looking to cash in on the lowest State Minimum ever set by the Federated Mint. In fact, tens of thousands of residents are expected to order up as many Silver Vault Bags as they can get their hands on before the deadline ends. That's because the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint has been slashed from $50 per heavy half ounce to just $29 for the next 2 days. And since each Silver Vault Bag contains 10 valuable State Silver Bars for just $290 nearly everyone is taking at least three bags before they're all gone. But all those who really want to cash in are taking the Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bags containing 100 State Silver Bars before the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint goes back up to $500 per Vault Bag. So if lines are busy keep trying.

▶ **How much are the Silver Vault Bags worth:** It's hard to tell how much these Silver Vault Bags could be worth since they are highly collectible, but those who get in on this now will be the really smart ones. That's because the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint goes back up to $500 per bag after the deadline ends. So you better believe that at just $290 the Silver Vault bags are a real steal for everyone who beats the deadline.

▶ **Can I buy one State Silver Bar:** Yes. But, the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of just $29 per bar applies only to residents who purchase a Silver Vault Bag(s). That means only those residents who order a Silver Vault Bag(s) or the heavy, Jumbo Silver Ballistic Bag(s) get the $29 per bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint. All single bar purchases, orders placed after the 2-day deadline and all non-state residents must pay the standard $50 per heavy half ounce Bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint.

▶ **Why is the State Minimum set by the Federated Mint so low now:** Thousands of U.S. residents stand to miss the deadline to get the silver at the lowest ever State Minimum set by the private Federated Mint. Now all residents who find the first 3 digits of their zip code on the Distribution List printed in today's publication are getting the Silver Vault Bags for themselves and all the solid .999 pure State Silver Bars found inside. The price for each Silver Vault Bag is normally set at $500 which is the standard $50 per bar State Minimum set by the Federated Mint, but residents who beat the 2-day deadline only cover the lowest ever State Minimum set by the Federated Mint of just $290 for each State Silver Vault Bag which is just $29 per bar as long as they call the National Silver Hotline before the deadline ends at: **1-866-874-7770 EXT. FMM2681**. Hotlines open at 8:30 A.M.

BACK VIEW
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Pro-Choice and Pro-Life protesters stand outside of Planned Parenthood as a deadline looms to renew the license of Missouri's sole remaining Planned Parenthood clinic in St. Louis, Missouri. REUTERS

Trump's 'conscience' rule for healthcare workers struck down by U.S. judge

Rule would make it easier for healthcare providers to avoid providing abortion services.

A federal judge on Wednesday voided a White House-backed rule making it easier for doctors, nurses and other healthcare providers to avoid performing abortions and other medical services on religious or moral grounds.

U.S. District Judge Paul Engelmayer in Manhattan said the "conscience" rule was unconstitutionally coercive because it would let the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) withhold billions of dollars of funding from hospitals, clinics, universities and other healthcare providers that did not comply.

"Wherever the outermost line where persuasion gives way to coercion lies, the threat to pull all HHS funding here crosses it," Engelmayer wrote in a 147-page decision.

The judge also said the rule was "arbitrary and capricious," and conflicted with federal laws governing the obligations of employers to accommodate workers' religious views, and hospitals to provide emergency treatment to poor patients.

Engelmayer's decision covered a lawsuit by New York state, New York City and 21 other states and municipalities that are led by Democrats or often lean Democratic, as well as two lawsuits by Planned Parenthood and other healthcare providers. California has filed its own lawsuit challenging the rule.

A spokeswoman for HHS said that agency and the U.S. Department of Justice were reviewing Engelmayer's decision.

U.S. President Donald Trump, a Republican running for reelection, has made expanding religious liberty a priority, and the conscience rule has drawn support from abortion opponents. The rule was scheduled to take effect on Nov. 22.

New York Attorney General Letitia James in a statement said the rule would have encouraged healthcare providers to "openly discriminate" against some patients.

"Health care is a basic right that should never be subject to political games," James said.

Planned Parenthood also welcomed the decision. "Everyone deserves to access the health care they need," Acting President Alexis McGill Johnson said. "This rule put patients' needs last."

The states and municipalities have said the rule could undermine their ability to provide effective healthcare, and upend their efforts to accommodate workers' beliefs.

Critics have also said the rule could deprive gay, transgender and other patients of needed healthcare because some providers might deem them less worthy of treatment.

HHS countered that the rule would help enforce conscience protection laws that have been on the books for decades.

Engelmayer, an appointee of former Democratic President Barack Obama, said these protections "recognize and protect undeniably important rights," but the government's rulemaking "was sufficiently shot through with glaring legal defects."

He also chastised HHS for making a "factually untrue" and "demonstrably false" claim that there had been a "significant increase" in complaints about conscience protection violations.

Plaintiffs challenging the rule included Chicago and Washington, D.C., as well as Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, states where Trump prevailed in the 2016 presidential election.

The states' case is New York et al v. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services et al, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. REUTERS

Fred C. Arena. FACEBOOK

Accused white supremacist deemed too dangerous for bail

A New Jersey man on trial for his ties to a white supremicist group has been deemed too dangerous for bail.

Former Philadelphia Navy yard worker Fred C. Arena, 41, has operated social media accounts flooded with right-wing memes, and images of him with knives and guns. A current resident of Salem, New Jersey, Arena was in federal court Wednesday, two weeks after he was charged with lying to the FBI to about his ties to a white nationalist group.

U.S. Magistrate Judge David R. Strawbridge decided to detain Arena without bail until trial, according to Inqurier.com. The judge credited the prosecutor's depiction of Arena as a danger to the community and potential witnesses in his case.

Arena's attorney, Brian J. Zeiger, accused government lawyers of seeking jail time for his client strictly on his distasteful beliefs. Zeiger also argued that lying to feds was not serious enough to warrant pretrial detention.

Arena has no criminal record and has never been charged with a crime prior to being charged with repeatedly lying about his membership in the white nationalist group, "Vanguard America."

His membership was discovered by an alternative media site, Unicorn Riot. They identified him based on a pseudonymous post in white supremacist chat rooms. The FBI interviewed him within days but he allegedly denied his membership and association with that group.

Inqurier.com reports that Arena lied on an application for national security clearance, which was submitted in January for part of his job at a government contractor for the Naval Inactive Ship Maintenance Facility within the Navy Yard.

Arena has reportedly denied the allegation. There are currently no claims of violence relating to the charges. Federal sentencing guidelines suggest that if convicted, he will be in prison for less than a year. However, Inquirer.com reports that the court is likely to exceed that.

> **"How do we decide what an individual's intentions are? We look to his past actions and his past statements. And I think these statements show an intent to intimidate witnesses."**
>
> Joseph A. LaBar

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph A. LaBar showed several of social media posts that reinforced his belief that Arena posed a threat to government witnesses.

It was reported that online, Arena made threats to two former romantic partners, saying he would sever parts of the women's body and store them in a jar. Additionally, he also said he would eat a woman alive and slit her throat.

Arena was allegedly obsessed with anyone he thought would feed information about him to the FBI, including going to a former acquaintance's home and taking a selfie with a knife near the town sign. He allegedly stated that "We drove [him] so crazy, he was ready to kill himself" about the informant, he also invited others to harass him.

"How do we decide what an individual's intentions are?" LaBar asked on Wednesday, adding, "We look to his past actions and his past statements. And I think these statements show an intent to intimidate witnesses."

Arena is currently in the federal detention center in Philly since FBI agents arrested him in a hotel room, where he was renting housing. Strawbridge also not that Arena has no fixed address.

It was reported that his family refused to allow him to live with them when he was fired from the Navy Yard last week.

As of Wednesday there was no trial date set for his case. BECCA GLASSER-BAKER

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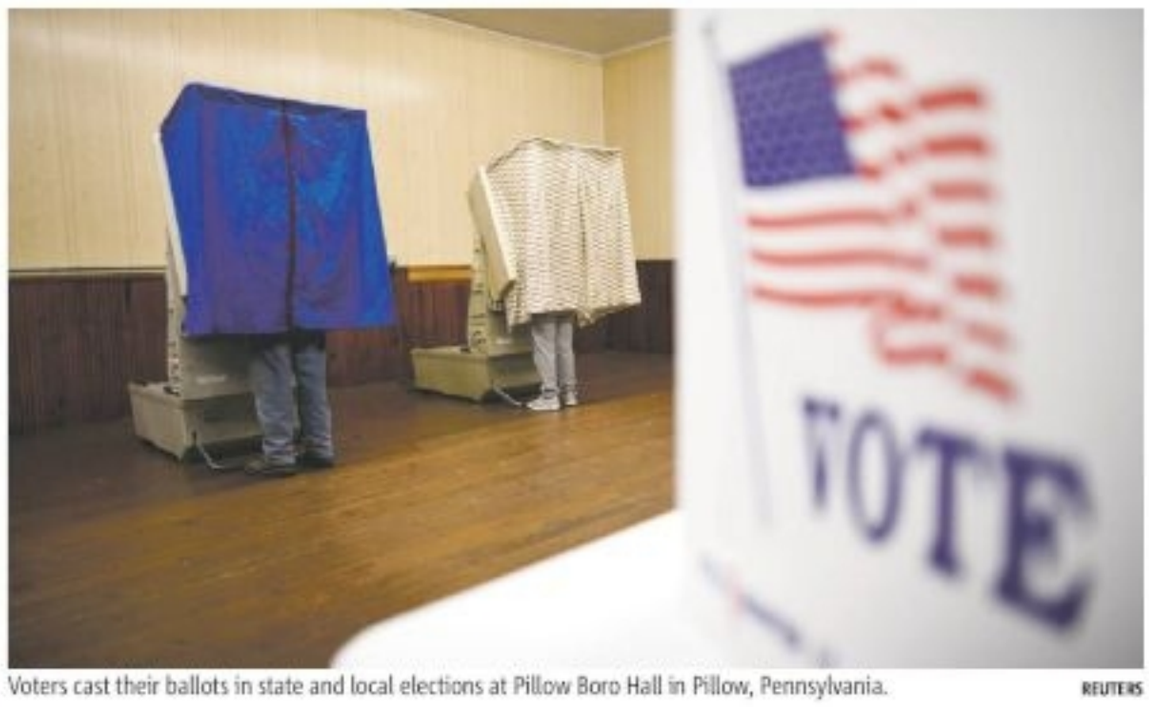

Voters cast their ballots in state and local elections at Pillow Boro Hall in Pillow, Pennsylvania. REUTERS

In Trump's shadow, Republican suburban slide shows little sign of slowing

Local elections show signs of suburban revolt against Trump.

The last time Democrats controlled the government in Delaware County, a suburb of Philadelphia, the U.S. Civil War had just ended.

But on Tuesday, Democrats ended a century and a half of Republican dominance. In two other Philadelphia-area suburbs, they captured Chester County's board of commissioners for the first time in history and seized control of Bucks County's board of commissioners for the first time since the 1980s.

The Democratic gains in Pennsylvania, a state crucial to U.S. President Donald Trump's election in 2016, suggest Republicans have yet to staunch the bleeding in the suburbs, where voters have increasingly revolted against Trump's heated rhetoric.

The results should "scare" Republicans ahead of the November 2020 election, said Douglas Heye, a strategist who previously worked for the Republican National Committee.

"More and more data suggests we're seeing a flight away from Republicans in suburban areas," Heye said.

There were warning signs in other historically Republican strongholds as well.

In Kentucky, where Trump this week held a campaign rally to bolster Republican Governor Matt Bevin's reelection bid, a Democratic challenger scored an upset win driven in part by a strong performance in suburbs of northern Kentucky outside Cincinnati, Ohio.

In Virginia, Democrats captured total control of state government for the first time in a generation, flipping both chambers of the legislature on the strength of wins in the rapidly growing and diversifying suburbs of northern Virginia and the capital of Richmond.

> **"I think this was an example of a very unpopular incumbent governor"**
>
> Susan Collins

Many vulnerable Virginia Republicans sought to keep the campaign focused on local issues. Trump notably did not campaign in the state down the stretch, even as he sought to flex his political muscle in Kentucky and Mississippi.

The election results underscore the challenge Republicans in swing areas face when Trump seeks re-election in 2020, including U.S. senators Cory Gardner of Colorado, Susan Collins of Maine, Thom Tillis of North Carolina and Martha McSally of Arizona: embrace Trump and risk alienating suburban voters, especially women, or keep your distance and risk losing Trump diehards.

"That's the question every Republican up for reelection is asking themselves: how do you overperform Trump in suburban areas without hurting yourself with the base voters you absolutely need?" said Alex Conant, a Republican strategist who worked on Senator Marco Rubio's presidential campaign.

Collins dismissed reading too much into the local elections, noting Republicans did well in other Kentucky races, including wresting the attorney general office from Democrats.

"I think this was an example of a very unpopular incumbent governor," she said in an interview in Washington on Wednesday.

Democrats are grappling with whether a moderate such as Biden or a liberal such as Warren would be best suited to defeat Trump. REUTERS

the Grumble

READER WRITE-INS:

BLUETOOTH HEADPHONES

Dear Bill,

I will assume, like me, that you are the proud owner of an older phone or such technology that still *has* a headphone jack. As most new phones and music players have been upgraded and made thinner, the headphone jack has been eliminated (see iPhone) and Bluetooth is the *only* way to use these devices if you want to privately listen to them.

As you are likely aware, one of the physical drawbacks to corded headphones, as I am well-aware, is the repetitive stress of plugging and unplugging them, along with the oft chance you drop the device while they are connected, can cause the jack or the plug to malfunction, causing you to have to get new headphones or have the jack replaced or repaired.

As I do not see that trend reversing at all, as the millennials do enjoy their Bluetooth, I'd gladly take your $5 had I a way to accept it. If you are unwilling to 'cut the cord', as it were, when the time eventually comes to upgrade, you can purchase a Bluetooth receiver for your headphones on Amazon, which will allow you to retain your corded preference and non-falling-out of those dreaded AirPods, for instance. I hope you can find it in you to gracefully accept this grumbly future.

Anonymous, *Metro reader*

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries An unfamiliar environment will broaden your outlook regarding educational pursuits or your family history. A proposal, gift or settlement will improve your life. Romance is emphasized.

Taurus It's up to you to bring about change. Don't wait for someone else to do the work. Look at your options, find out what you need to know and initiate your plan.

Gemini An emotional matter will be difficult to control. Go directly to the source of the information you are given if something doesn't seem right.

Cancer Evaluate a proposal and consider how to use what you and the person making it have to offer. An innovative plan will pay off if you split the work and cost.

Leo Certain improvements will require you to do a little work. Physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle are in your best interest. Don't let temptation lead you down the wrong path.

Virgo Get out more and spend time with people who offer insight, knowledge and a different point of view. A function or event will lead to a good connection.

Libra Taking a business trip or checking out a potential offer, school or new direction will make you feel better about the future. Personal gains, family ties and romance are favored.

Scorpio A different living arrangement will encourage you to make an emotional decision. Making a commitment to someone will help ease stress and bring you peace of mind.

Sagittarius Keep your distance from people trying to make a mountain out of a molehill. Vivid metaphors will send a damaging message that could promote unwanted change. Remain calm.

Capricorn Think before you make a rash statement or a move that could box you in. Know your boundaries, the facts and your legal rights before you join in someone else's battle.

Aquarius Spend more time preparing and getting things done. The less time you engage in conversations, the easier it will be to avoid being blamed or criticized for leaked information.

Pisces Use your insight and know-how to help others. A change you make will improve a legal or financial matter. Refrain from making unnecessary purchases. Stretch your dollars. EUGENIA LAST

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Pinning down the sound of The New Pornographers with Carl Newman

We spoke with the singer-songwriter about the band's newest album.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Carl Newman of the long-running and influential indie-rock band The New Pornographers has a vague idea of what kind of music he doesn't make, even if he can't really put a label on the kind he does. After finding out writer Chris Holm had contributed an essay on his work in the book "Go All The Way: A Literary Appreciation of Power Pop," he was perplexed and took to Twitter to see what people thought was the proper definition of that vague musical term.

"I don't think anybody really knows," says Newman when I asked him about the data he had collected, over the phone. "They say Big Star is. I mean, I guess? I just always thought they were a rock band. Same thing with Cheap Trick. To me, I always thought it was a very slim description. I always thought it was The Knack or bands that sound like The Knack."

But as he posed the question to his followers, he was overwhelmed by the responses he got reaffirming Holm's writing. The mod decreed Newman "Power Pop," whether he liked it or not.

"I started talking about it very flippantly and then 1,600 people replied to me. Then I thought, this is hilarious. I have to be the 'Power Pop' guy now? I don't want to be the real life 'Power Pop Pop-up.'"

Over the course of his career, Newman has been one of the most reliable earworm singer-songwriters in all of indie-rock, both on his own under the name "A.C. Newman" and with The New Pornographers, where he writes and records along with the incredible in her own right Neko Case and, at one time, Dan Bejar of Destroyer. On their eighth album, "In the Morse Code of Brake Lights," you get a sense to what Newman is trying to understand. It has hooks that are akin to pop music. Very good ones. But you can't really justify placing it in a genre that can detract from the explosion of ideas found within it's 40 minute runtime. The same can be said if you go back to the band's early days.

"I've always loved writing pop songs but I think I just thought we were going to be a rock band," says Newman, thinking back to writing the songs of the band's debut, "Mass Romantic," which came out nearly 20 years ago. "I wanted us to be a cool sounding rock band. But once you become a little popular, then people want you to start explaining yourself more … I was just absorbing anything that I thought that was good at the time."

The same feeling has stuck with Newman over the years, and his explanations have never been any more convoluted than what they need to be. He wants to make good records, so he makes them. Simple as that.

"I just sit down and try to write songs. I don't know where they're going to go. I don't know what I'm going to do with them. I just want to put my head down and write something that I think is good. Which is what I've always done so I figure, why don't I just keep doing that? I think the way I approach it is fairly honest. I'm not striving for a specific thing. I'm just going where the song needs to go," explains Newman.

But creating great music is something that does not happen out of thin air. Newman understands this as much as anyone.

"I never find it easy to write songs," says Newman. "I always have a lot of songs begin, but it's very hard for me to finish a song. A lot of it is in the arrangements. I feel like having the melody and the chords and lyrics is only half of it. After that, I think, 'What should the song sound like?' That part is difficult. I want every song to feel original to me. I want it to sound like there is a reason for it to exist in the world. In terms of becoming comfortable in my own skin as a songwriter, I know what it involves. I know there are no shortcuts for me."

As many of the band members have different projects they are involved with, I ask Newman if keeping the Pornographers actively recording has become difficult.

"It always has been difficult," says Newman. "Neko lives relatively close to me now. So in that respect, it's a little easier in that I can get her to drive to me or I can drive out to see her. A lot of things we can do long-distance these days. Like, Kathyrn [Calder] has her own studio at home. So, I realize I don't have to be standing behind her while she's working on something. She can record things and she can send them to me and I can give her feedback. That makes recording a lot easier. I'm a lot more savvy in the studio now than I used to be. I can do a lot more at home, at my own studio, which is great for me. I can treat making an album like a job. I can work for 5 hours in the studio and then I can go pick up the kid and then go do normal guy stuff."

Make sure to catch The New Pornographers this Friday at Union Transfer. 1026 Spring Garden Street.

Making an impact

The 2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's is this weekend

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

The devastating effect of Alzheimer's and other forms of Dementia is sadly quite prevalent in today's world. If you haven't been directly affected, either yourself or in your family, chances are you know someone who has.

The damaging effects of the disease motivate incredible programs such as the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association to strive to eliminate Alzheimer's and other forms of Dementia from the world for good. They are able to make essential efforts towards this mission through a variety of events, including their signature Walk to End Alzheimer's (Nov. 10, 9 am, Citizen's Bank Park.)

"The Walk to End Alzheimer's is our single largest unifying event that brings together people from all over the country across several different months to support the vision to create a world without Alzheimer's and also all forms of Dementia," says Delaware Valley Chapter Executive Director, Kristina Fransel.

There are over 600 events like the Walk this weekend that happen around the country. The City of Brotherly Love's walk happens to be the largest in size expecting 10,000-11,000 people to participate in 2019.

"We have Walks across the country, and our Philadelphia Walk happens to be the largest out of all that takes place in the United States. The impact that people make through coming together is really at the heart of driving everything that we do as an association including being the global private leader for funding research in the world and also helping to provide care and support for the people who are affected every day by this disease— whether that's people with the disease themselves or their care providers. That's the work we do in the local communities," adds Fransel.

The event starts off with a Promise Garden Ceremony, where those suffering from and affected by the disease are able to band together through an emotionally eye-opening moment before the walk starts. There are a few spotlighted individuals who make an appearance at the ceremony, including an individual who is currently suffering from the disease, they tell their story at the Ceremony and the impact is quite moving.

After the 2 mile walk, there is also a section for sponsors who set up shop, including one Philadelphia sponsor, iHeart Radio, who recently had a member of their on-air team pass away from the disease. It's stories like these that band the community together during the ceremony, the walk and while talking with sponsors at the end.

"My guess would be that many folks know somebody either living with the disease or even someone who has participated in the walk since it is such a huge effort here locally," says Fransel. "We all know somebody who's participating in one way or another."

For those who can't make the walk on Sunday, there is still plenty of time to help. Interested members of the community can make donations through Dec. 31, 2019 at act.alz.org/philadelphia to help the foundation reach their goal of 1.6 Million dollars (as of this week they just hit the 1 million mark.)

People can also learn more about the Alzheimer's Association, programs, services and research through the Delaware Valley Chapter website: alz.org/delval, or by calling the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900 to talk to a trained Helpline specialist about Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia and learn about Association programs and services.

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Cookin' the books

Join Chef Nicholas Elmi for an exclusive dinner highlighting recipes from his new cookbook.

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ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

On Nov. 19, East Passyunk hotspot Laurel will be cooking the books with Chef Nicholas Elmi — a recipe book that is. Elmi, who is most well known for winning Bravo TV's "Top Chef" as well as owning other hotspots in the city (Royal Boucherie and ITV) will be changing Laurel's entire menu for one night only to feature recipes from his latest cookbook "Laurel: Modern American Flavors in Philadelphia."

The cookbook (co-written by Adam Erace, shot by Neal Santos and published by Running Press) features a nine-course tasting menu with a cocktail pairing highlighting all four seasons of the year, and next week, culinary-curious guests will get to sample the fall-centric portion of the book.

The enticing menu includes: apple-yuzu consommé with marinated trout roe and bitter greens; albacore crudo with horseradish snow and pears; sea urchin with creamed corn and sunflower-truffle vinaigrette; frozen foie gras tarte with elderberry vinegar, black raspberry and hibiscus; burgundy

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2223 Kenneth Pitt, Household Goods, Boxes, Furniture, Trunks, Suitcases, Appliances
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4116 Raymond Madison, Boxes, Toys, Tools and Suitcases • 4118 Tevin Murray-Louch, Bags, Clothes, Mattress, TV and Drawers
4708 Abdoulaye Baldo, Bags, Bins, Boxes and Refrigerator
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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on 11/19/2019 at 9:00AM online at www.StorageAuctions.com at the Safeguard Storage facility located at: Safeguard Self Storage, 1499 66th Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19126 • 215-224-6700. The Personal goods stored therein by the following:
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2418 Erica Hillyard Household Goods • 3410 Daniel Brown III Household Goods • 2503 Tyree Gladden Household Goods
3136 Darryl Roberson Household Goods • 3221 Stacy-ann Ferguson Household Goods • 3234 Stanley Rogers Household Goods • 3240 Keith Drake Household Goods
Purchases must be paid at the facility with Credit Card or Cash. All Purchases must be complete within 48 hours of the end of the online auction. A $100.00 cash cleaning deposit is required until all items in the unit are removed from the premises and verified by the manager on duty. Sale subject to cancellation until the purchase is completed; company reserves the right to refuse any online bids.
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Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: **12005 Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19154, 11/14/2019 at 11:30 am**
H20-Raymond Cedar; 1132-Hans Neuber; I14-Melanie Marren;
1409-Aria Health; E39-Warren Grier; 1126-Vanessa Serrano;
J13-Elizabeth Gerney; 818-Patrick David Moore
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage, 6204 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111, 215-528-9694 • November 14, 2019 11:00AM
C219C Eddy Joseph, D139CV Sandra Colon,
D142 Virginia Gandia Baez, V126 Andre C. Mack.
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

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Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage **2300 Washington Avenue, 267-607-5171 • November 14, 2019 at 2:30 pm**
CatalinoMark Gonzalez - Unit 5106
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage, **59 Leverington Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19127, 215.422.3299,** Sale Date: **November 14th** at **2:00 PM**
3075 Rena Nealy • 2028 Ashley Walker
1088 Jeremiah Austin
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage **1553 Grant Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19115 (215)464-3913 • November 14, 2019 10:30am**
635 – Sharon J Jones; 340 – Tynise Vega; 493 – Denise Walker;
182 – Lawrence D Schachter; 162 – Zdenka Pierre;
294 – Ronald Simes; 41 – Colleen Reed; 369 – Franklin Wallace
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property
Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction on **November 14th, 2019** at **1:30 PM** to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage **116 Fountain St. Philadelphia, PA 19127 267-766-0064.**
2144 - Jamyra Perry; 2105 - Joan Cunningham; 5147 - Christophe Hayes; 5110 - Kate Sullivan; 4010 - Angelica Ganier; 5059 - Dawn Wright; 4141 - John Martin
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

snails with onion, mushroom and potato chips; grilled mackarel with black tuile and smoked-mackerel dashi; burnt-sugar salisfy with cured lamb, black trumpets and watercress; duck breast with caramelized sunchoke, blackberry and chicory crumble; and roasted apple with caramel-coffee cream, black walnut and apple wine.

Next Wednesday night's festivities will also highlight a signature cocktail, "The Drunken Farmer," and additional wine pairings will also be available throughout the nine-course extravaganza. Guests will also leave with a signed copy of "Laurel: Modern American Flavors in Philadelphia" to take home and perhaps whip up a few of their favorite dishes from the dinner or some new ones for their friends, family, or even themselves (treat yourself, Philly.)

This exclusive dinner only has space for 22 guests, so calling ahead and reserving your seat beforehand is required. Reservations can be made by calling the restaurant at (215) 271-8299.

So if you're looking for a one-of-a-kind event that will take your tastebuds on a seasonal culinary ride, reserve your spot at Laurel for Nov. 19 to join in on the 9-course delight.

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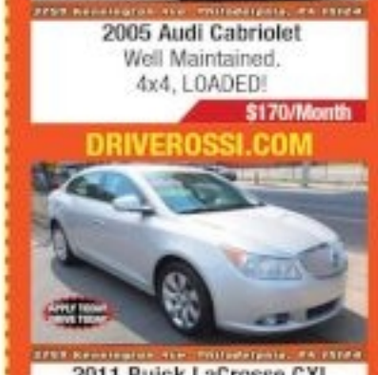

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Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: **Extra Space Storage, 4433 Wayne Ave., Philadelphia PA 19144 • 267-453-3400**
November 20, 2019, 10:00 am

1A10D Teresa Chapman; 1A52 Phillip Sumpter-King; 2A108 Steven Sallard; 2A137 Dina Morrison; 2A20 Brian Thompson; 2A200 Barbara Green; 2A259 Tamika Ross; 2A268 Craig Long; 2A70 Cynthia Archer; 2A81 Laura English; 2B05 Martin Jones; 2B33 Robert Hayes; 2B36 Cicely Turner; 2B53 Ciania Bernard; 2C25 Raheem Mobley; 2C80 Joan Dutton; 2D146 Jamir Kee; 2D160 Andrew Jones; 2D163 Leonard Thomas; 2D225 Nicole D Chapman; 2D24 Joy Faust; 2D245 Tamika Lebrew; 2D40 Lesley Rex; 2D50 Herbert Earl Swain Lowery; 2D78 Cheronn Newkirk; 2E09 Rachel Johnson; 2E35 Karren Earl; 2L04 Mark Bullock; 3A13 Cynthia Rainey; 3A148 Christen Johnson; 3A178B Xenia Hopkins; 3A201 Nijha Muhammad; 3A23 William Reynolds; 3A26 Jason Brown; 3A287 Horace J Holloway; 3C18 Nyeta Allen; 3E07 Michaela Ross; 3E82 Leshell Walker; 3L12 Andre Wilson; 3L43 Jacqueline Tilghman; 4A103 Tamara Summers; 4A118 Renee Bolden; 4A127 Janay Blythers; 4A128 James A Goodjoines; 4A16 Peter Johnson; 4A207 Nagetia Robertson; 4A226 Anwar Bigelow; 4A31 Eric Daniels; 4A44 Jennifer Stallings; 4A49 Stanley Fishcher; 4A63 Fatumata Sillah; 4A78 Gloria Dessus; 4A88 James A Goodjoines; 4C02 Courtney Mccullogh; 4E103 Alexis Jeffries; 4E143 Teana Henry; 4L35 Jill Trim

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via www.StorageTreasures.com for competitive bidding to begin on **November 7th, 2019** at **4:00 PM** and conclude on **November 21st, 2019** at **4:00 PM** via the Compass Self Storage located at **12 E Oregon Ave Philadelphia, PA 19148.**

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

Unit # 1350 Briana Dawkins, Unit # 1351 Gerald Loke, Unit # 2071 Adrian Beverly
Unit # 2150 Caitlin Dianna Bunn, Unit # 2206 Chareda Wesley
Unit # 2251 Justine Williams, Unit # 2325 Jillian Feeney, Unit # 2357 Andre Defrancesco
Unit # 2360 Shannon Rought, Unit # 2421 Andrew Jarman

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Compass Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via www.Storagetreasures.com for competitive bidding to begin on November 7, 2019 at 4:00PM and conclude November 21, 2019 at 4:00PM via the Compass Self Storage located at 1851 W Allegheny Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19132

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

1038 Jerel Williams • 1066 Three Girls and a Map • 1068 Latifa Carroll
1087 Lakeisha Mccurdy • 2051 Tisa Warner
3014 Yasmylyn Romero • 4001 Anthony Bell
4060 Peggy Fields • 4063 Theodore Norman
5076 Dawud Carroll • 5131 Roy Joseph • 5171 Cynthia Pendleton
5251 Deshauntae Wagner • 4052C Nia Bennett

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Compass Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via www.storagetreasures.com for competitive bidding to begin on **November 7th, 2019** at **4:00 pm** and conducting on **November 21st** at **4:00 pm** via the Compass Self Storage located at **1300 Belmont Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19104.**

Unit# 1104 Gregory Bradsher	**Unit# 4021 Glenard Stewart**	**Unit# 6220 Saniyyah Patrick**
Unit# 2036 Tyree Holmes	**Unit# 6018 Darren Warrick**	**Unit# B10 Preston Harper**
Unit# 2065 Lonell Chestnut	**Unit# 6033 Sharee Bentley**	**Unit# B14 Lana Williams**
Unit# 2135 Parris Watson	**Unit# 7025 Deshauna Briscoe**	**Unit# C08 Michael Narcisse**
Unit# 2227 Meleka Johnson	**Unit# 7098 Karlita O'Neill**	**Unit# D25 Andrew Myers**
Unit# 3039 Ashley Vashon	**Unit# 8147 Terrill Clay**	**Unit# RV17 Toni Richardson**
Unit# 4015 Willie Moore	**Unit# 8154 Daniel Lebowitz, MD**	**Unit# RV26 Bruce Wilcox**

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

Before we get to the Thursday Night Football preview, I should remind you about the best current offer in PA and NJ sports betting – a limited-time offer to obtain a free $50 VISA gift card and up to $250 in risk-free bonus money at **MetroBet.us/Sugar.** All you have to do is:

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After enduring a three-game losing streak in October, the Chargers have put together back-to-back strong outings in beating the Bears in Chicago (17-16), and the Packers at that soccer stadium they call a home (26-11).

Melvin Gordon finally looked like Melvin Gordon again in the victory over Green Bay as he racked up 80 yards on 20 carries. He also had three catches for 29 yards.

Gordon's versatility was key in the Chargers' two wins over the Raiders last season as he had 62 yards receiving in the victory in LA and 72 yards receiving in Oakland.

But, as we all know by now, this year's Raiders team is much more impressive than the 2018 bunch. Oakland has been playing its best football of the season of late as they toppled the Lions 31-24 this past Sunday, and narrowly lost to the Texans the week prior 27-24.

What should help the Raiders in this one is that their fan base will fired up and fueled with liquid energy due to the primetime slot. The Silver & Black are 2-1 against the spread so far this year at home, and good Oakland teams thrive under the lights.

Coming off the heels of all of that Antonio Brown drama right before the season started, Jon Gruden's club put together a stunner (at the time) of a Week 1 Monday night win, taking down the Broncos for a 24-16 victory.

Look for Raiders rookie running back Josh Jacobs to introduce himself to a national audience tonight.

Jacobs has rushed for over 120 yards in three of his last four games, and the Chargers are shaky when it comes to stopping the run (20th in the NFL at 114.1 yards per game).

The play: Raiders +1

ALL GETTY IMAGES

TWEET OF THE DAY

Todd Fuhrman
@ToddFuhrman

There might be days you don't have any action as a sports bettor, but there are rarely true off days.

Best bets

NFL betting: Panthers at Packers

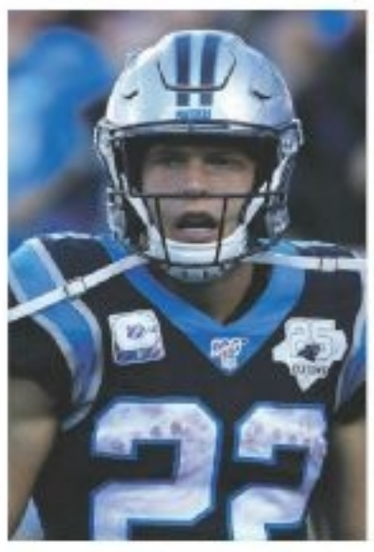
Carolina tailback Christian McCaffrey is poised for another superlative performance as the Panthers face the Packers at Lambeau Field on Sunday.

McCaffrey is fresh off one of his best efforts of the season as he ran for 146 yards (24 carries) and tallied another 20 yards in receptions in a 30-20 victory over the Titans. He is averaging 155.5 yards from scrimmage in eight games this year and faces a Green Bay defense that's allowed the fifth-most yards per game to running backs through Week 9.

Carolina's defense is a respectable ninth in passing yards allowed per game but, more importantly, is tops in the NFL in sacks. That spells trouble for Packers signal caller Aaron Rodgers, who suits up behind an offensive line that's a modest 14th in sacks allowed this season.

The trends are not on Green Bay's side either. The Panthers are 5-1 against the spread in their last six overall and have covered in four of their last five road games. The Packers are just 6-13-1 against the spread in their last 20 conference games.

The play: Panthers +5



ROBERT CRISCOLA

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NHL

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NFL WEEK 10

LA CHARGERS -1 AT OAKLAND RAIDERS

BUFFALO BILLS AT CLEVELAND BROWNS -3

DETROIT LIONS AT CHICAGO BEARS -2.5

NEW YORK GIANTS -2.5 AT NEW YORK JETS

MINNESOTA VIKINGS AT DALLAS COWBOYS -3

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SPORTS

Flyers recall Vorobyev, send back Rubtsov

The Flyers swapped a pair of prospects for their fourth line on Wednesday.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Mikhail Vorobyev is back with the Flyers after being sent down to the AHL late last month. GETTY IMAGES

The Flyers announced on Wednesday that they have recalled Mikhail Vorobyev from Lehigh Valley and returned German Rubtsov to the AHL.

The 21-year-old Rubtsov made his NHL debut with the Flyers on Nov. 1, three years after being taken 22nd overall in the 2016 draft out of Russia.

His first taste of the big leagues lasted just three games as he spent limited time centering a fourth line that's been shuffled plenty already this season. He didn't record a point during that stretch.

That had little to do with his demotion, however. General manager Chuck Fletcher admitted that he wants Rubtsov to head back to the minors to get more playing time and continue honing his offensive game.

"The idea with him going to Lehigh Valley was to allow him to get more offensive puck touches, maybe play some power play, try to develop the offensive part of his game," he said last week (h/t NBC Sports Philadelphia). "That's something we'll want to be mindful of while he's up here, but certainly we're very confident that he can come in and play well away from the puck, compete and use his size and hockey sense to his advantage."

Rubtsov has the intangibles to develop into a strong, mid-line (either a second or third line) center. He's strong on the puck and can distribute it well, which holds the promise of him becoming more of a playmaking, two-way power forward.

Vorobyev, on the other hand, is believed to be more ready to consistently contribute to the Flyers right now.

The 22-year-old appeared in 15 games last season, recording a goal and an assist while averaging just 9:20 of ice time per game.

He made his 2019-20 debut last month and appeared in five games before the swap for Rubtsov was made. He has one point and a minus-1 rating this year.

Vorobyev will be able to provide a style of play more suitable for Philadelphia's current fourth line.

He's shown a hesitation to go forward and display some of his more promising offensive skill set. That being said, he has the strength and a hockey IQ that is advanced for a player his age.

Flyers fans could expect to see him logging some important minutes on the penalty kill while helping Michael Raffl and Tyler Pitlick create mayhem on the fourth line.

Coming off a 4-1 win against a strong Hurricanes team, the Flyers host the Montreal Canadiens — fresh off a 5-4 win over the Bruins — tonight.

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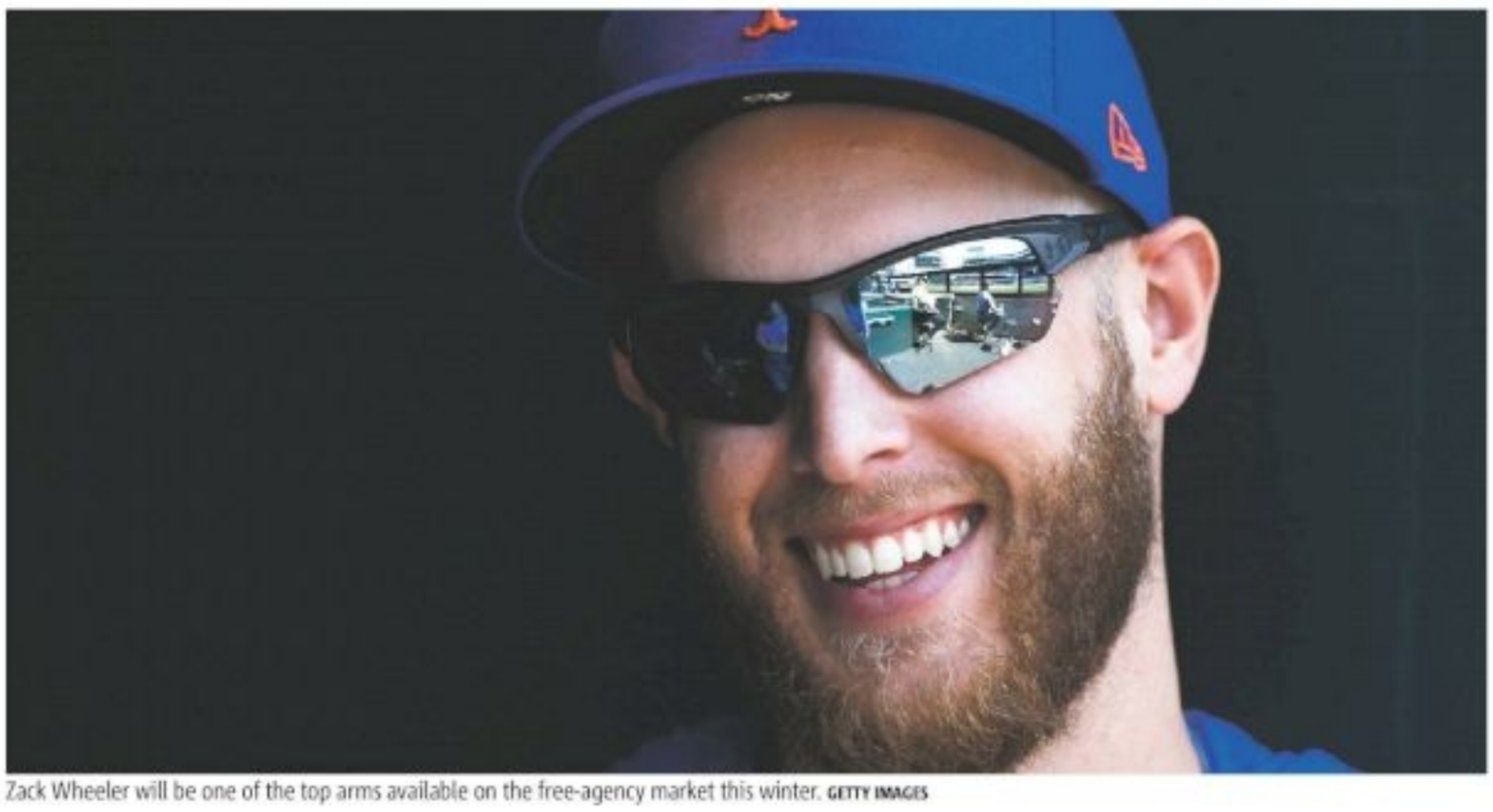
SEE OUR CIRCULAR IN TODAY'S PAPER FOR MORE GREAT DEALS!

Mets' Zack Wheeler becoming arm to watch for Phillies as free agency looms

Mets righty is expected to turn down qualifying offer and head to free agency this winter.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us



Zack Wheeler will be one of the top arms available on the free-agency market this winter. GETTY IMAGES

Expect the Philadelphia Phillies to dip their toes in the water when it comes to every notable starting-pitching free-agent on the market this winter.

There obviously are the big fishes in the pool in the forms of Gerrit Cole and Stephen Strasburg, both of whom put on a clinic during the postseason including the latter coming away with the World Series MVP award.

The problem — even for the Phillies and their stupid-money spending — is that both arms are going to require top-dollar on the market.

Cole is coming off one of the finest seasons by an American League pitcher in recent memory, going 20-5 with a 2.50 ERA and 326 strikeouts.

Strasburg — who has battled injuries and innings limits — continues to put it all together after leading the National League with 18 wins to go with a 3.32 ERA and 251 strikeouts.

Both pitchers are going to fetch multi-year contracts that could range, in total, anywhere between $175 million and $250 million.

That's a big contract for Phillies general manager Matt Klentak to fit on the books alongside Bryce Harper's monster deal.

Granted, it doesn't mean the Phillies won't do their due diligence considering the reports that the team will create an offseason plan that includes the pursuit of Cole.

But with Cole reportedly wanting to go back home out west, the Phillies might come up empty on that front.

And if the price for a 31-year-old Strasburg is too high, then the Phillies will have to look elsewhere.

The problem is that there's a significant drop-off in talent from Cole and Strasburg to the rest of the pack — whether that's in the form of Madison Bumgarner, Hyun-Jin Ryu, or Zack Wheeler.

There has been a growing notion over the past few days that the Phillies could find a fit with Wheeler.

The New York Mets righty is not expected to accept his team's qualifying offer of $17.8 million for the 2020 season, which means he'll be headed to free agency.

At 29, he is coming off a season where he pitched a career-high 195.1 innings which was his first completely full season since 2014 before Tommy John surgery.

He went 11-8 with a 3.96 ERA, which isn't necessarily frontline numbers. But he posted a career-low walk rate at 2.3 base-on-balls per nine innings. His strikeout-to-walk ratio was also a career-best at 3.90.

Any team willing to pay big money for him will hope that he can regain his form from the second half of 2018, though. In his last 15 starts of that season, he went 10-1 with a 2.06 ERA.

Wheeler would provide a solid third option in the Phillies rotation behind Aaron Nola and Jake Arrieta while depending less on the likes of Zach Eflin, Nick Pivetta, and Vince Velasquez.

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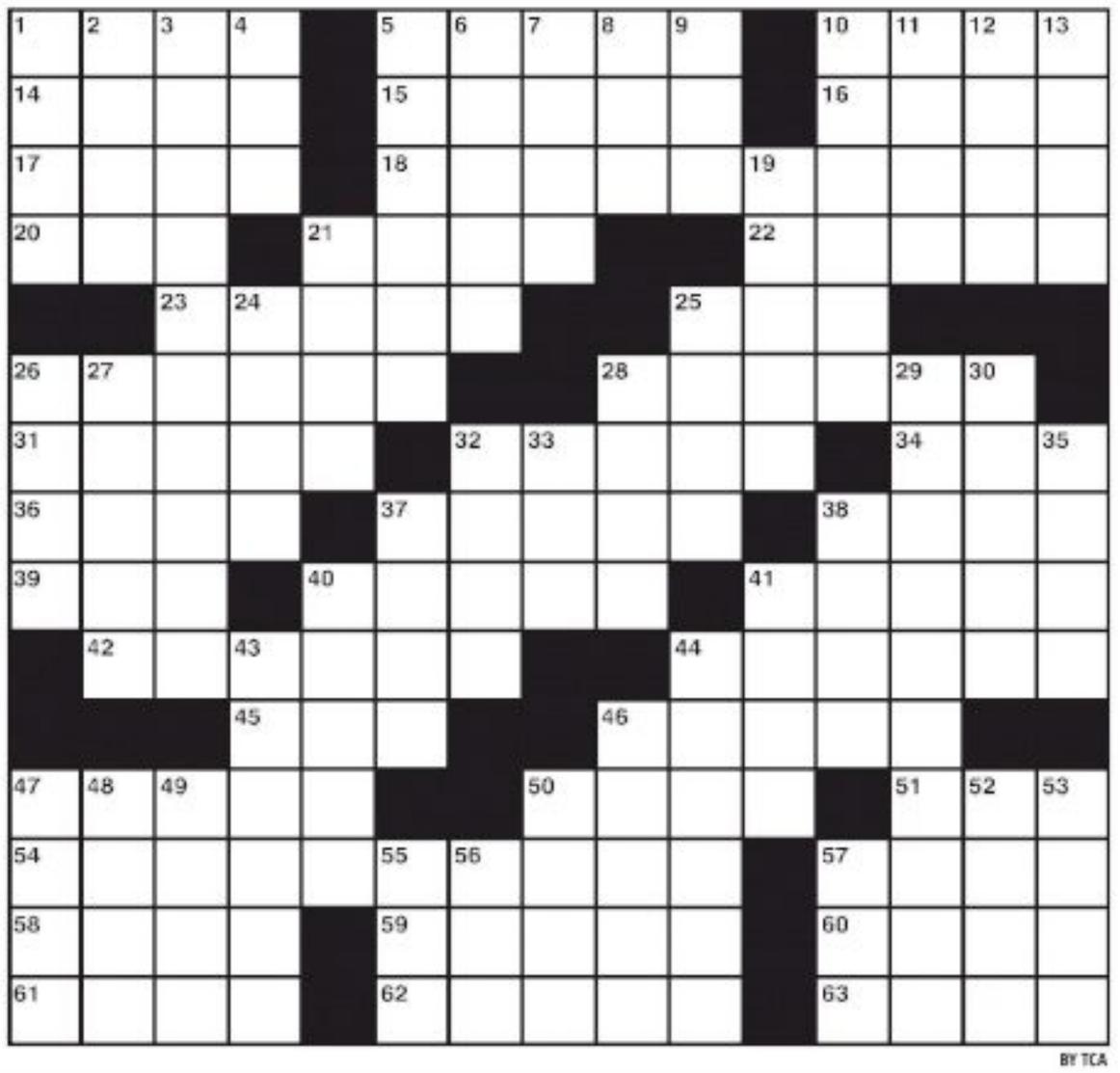
ACROSS

1 As __ as molasses
5 Sound of a sneeze
10 Range viewed from Salzburg
14 Easy pace
15 $1000
16 Lawn mower brand
17 Like petits fours & eclairs
18 Lawn game
20 __ favor; polite Spaniard's phrase
21 Unpleasantly moist
22 Musical speed
23 Got up
25 Jon __ Jovi
26 Inventor's paper
28 Moans and __
31 Otherwise known as
32 Parable's lesson
34 "Cat __ Hot Tin Roof"
36 Clippety-__
37 "__, Jose!"
38 Antlered animal
39 Relatives
40 Like a dull & hackneyed joke
41 Similar
42 Chaperone
44 Willis & Lee
45 Word attached to chair or rest
46 Ill-gotten gain
47 Dangerous critter
50 Tumor
51 Chad's continent: abbr.
54 Beside the point
57 As busy as __
58 Leoni's namesakes
59 __ Castro
60 Singer Campbell
61 Quiche ingredients
62 Waterbirds
63 Hit hard

DOWN

1 Lose one's footing
2 Crazy
3 Surgeries
4 Took a mate
5 Horrified
6 Hag
7 "__! The Herald Angels Sing"
8 Walk-__; movie set extras
9 "__ to Billie Joe"
10 Greek goddess of wisdom
11 Weaving device
12 Abbr. in some high school names
13 Mediocre
19 Bar seat
21 Puts on, as clothes
24 "As ye sow, so shall ye __"
25 Donkey's cry
26 Prepare to move
27 TV's "Kate & __"
28 Elephant's color
29 Obvious
30 Simple plumbing tool
32 Comedian Sahl
33 On one's __; independent
35 Middle __; historical period
37 Accepted standard
38 Insulting remark
40 __ reef; atoll
41 Rainbows
43 Embrace
44 Hustle and __
46 Paths
47 Refer to
48 "The Beaver State": abbr.
49 Boast
50 Created
52 "I __ Pretty"; "West Side Story" song
53 Torn in two
55 Encycl. volume, perhaps
56 __ for; strive to win
57 Bell's monogram



BY TCA

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S	W	A	T			S	T	A	N		E	G	G	S
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I	L	L		S	O	A	P	S		C	O	T	T	A
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C	H	E	C	K	E	R	E	D		A	D	O	R	E
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O	I	L	Y		S	P	R	Y			Y	E	A	S

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8		3		2				
5	9					4		
	7	1	5		3		9	2
	2					1	4	
				9				
	4	5					2	
2	3		8		6	5	7	
		6					1	9
				7		2		6

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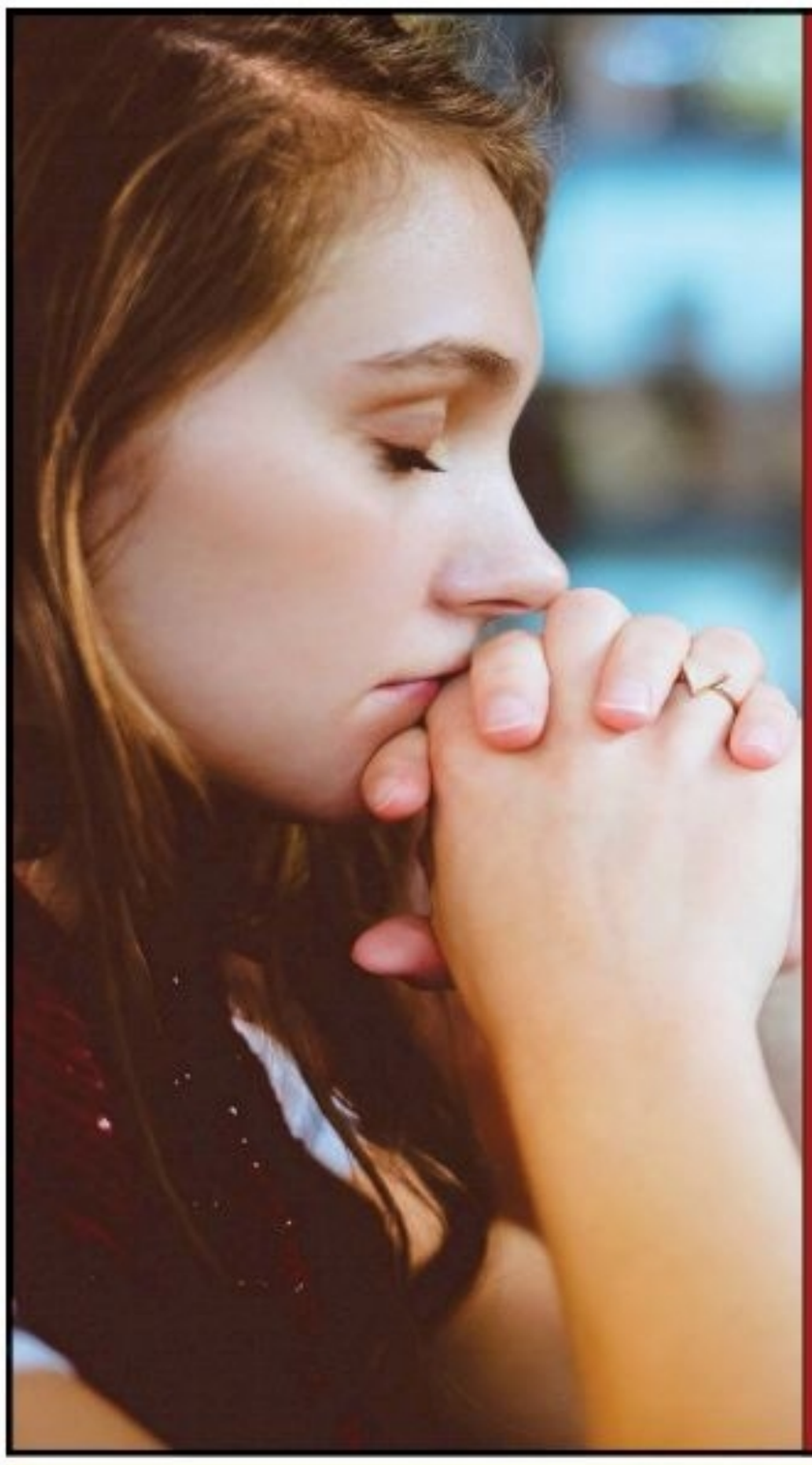

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